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Clark County Regional Support Network Policy Statement


Policy No.: CM29
Policy Title: Respite Services
Effective Date: April 1, 2004

Policy: The Clark County Regional Support Network (CCRSN) shall make funds available for CCRSN providers to provide respite care services to sustain the primary caregivers of children, adolescent, and adults with serious emotional disorders. Care shall be provided on a planned basis and flexible to ensure that the individual's daily routine is maintained.

Reference: WAC 388-065-0230, Washington State Mental Health Division RSN Interlocal Agreement

Procedure:

1. CCRSN providers shall ensure adherence to the following eligibility criteria for respite services:
 - a) Consumers have serious emotional disturbance (SED); and
 - b) Consumers have a current, signed treatment plan that includes respite care as a clinically justified service, from a licensed community mental health provider.
2. CCRSN providers shall bill for respite services for adults and children through the outpatient authorization process.
3. CCRSN providers are required to obtain prior approval for respite care subcontractors; respite care for children must be provided by a child placing agency.
4. CCRSN providers shall ensure that subcontracted respite services are provided by someone other than the care giver and meet the physical, emotional, social and mental health needs of the individual consumer by providing observation, direct support and monitoring.
5. CCRSN providers shall ensure that respite care services are provided:
 - a) In a manner that provides necessary relief to caregivers;
 - b) On a planned or an emergent basis;
 - c) In a setting convenient for the consumer, such as consumer or caregiver's home, agency facility, respite worker's home;
 - d) Flexibly to maintain the consumer's daily routine; and
 - e) Under the supervision of a mental health professional.

Approved By: 

Michael Piper, Director
Clark County
Department of Community Services

Date: 11-22-05